

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method for establishing a virtual electronic teaching system with a central content-server for an e-learning or tele-teaching event and with a workstation (AP) of a person participating in the e-learning or tele-teaching event, utilizing a telecommunication network for connection to said content-server, the telecommunication network having a main distribution connected to an exchange with an access multiplexer and a splitter or a splitter connected to or integrated in the main distribution, and with analog or digital telecommunication devices (TE), and an interface circuit (SS) connectable to the telecommunication device (TE) or to the workstation (AP), the interface circuit (SS) has a memory unit (SP) and a microprocessor (MP), and for automatic test done by the interface circuit (SS), the method comprises the steps of:

- a) registering the interface circuit (SS) to said content-server by means of a log-in procedure stored in the memory unit (SP);
- b) establishing a connection vicarious for the telecommunication device (TE) connected to said main distribution via a subscriber line or subscriber modem and splitter or a network termination (NTBA) and subscriber lines (AL), between the interface circuit (SS) and said content-server;
- c) determining a type of connection pending on the communications interface (MFE) of the interface circuit (SS);
- d) transmitting at least one in the memory unit (SP) a stored test signal to the content-server;
- e) evaluating an acknowledgement for the test information received there returned, in a return direction, by the content-server; and
- f) testing at least a bandwidth available to the telecommunication device (TE)

and all available protocols in communication with said content-server as a remote station adjusts itself to a protocol proposed by the remote station, so that said interface circuit (SS) prevents typical "time out"-problems by indicating the complete reception of an image file in such a way that said workstation (AP) remains connected to said e-learning or tele-teaching event.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 15, wherein ~~the said interface circuit (SS) tests all available protocols in communication with said content-server as a remote station and adjusts itself to a protocol proposed by the remote station~~ is designed as a plug-in card for a telecommunication device (TE) or a workstation (AP) characterized in that depending on the bandwidth demand said plug-in card automatically activates additional communication channels by means of which a dynamic channel management and bandwidth control is achieved.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein, in order to avoid time out problems, the interface circuit (SS) emits a message confirming complete reception of data obtained by said content-server so that the workstation (AP) remains in the tele-teaching or e-learning event, even though broadband transmission is not possible.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said data comprises an image file.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, further comprising: storing an access authorization in said memory unit (SP) of the interface circuit (SS) to secure establishment of the connection and the test process against unauthorized access, and recording the log-in procedure.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A virtual electronic teaching system, with a central content-server for an e-learning or tele-teaching event and with a workstation

(AP) of a person participating in the e-learning or tele-teaching event, using a telecommunication network connected to said content-server, with a main distribution connected to an exchange (VST) and an access multiplexer and a splitter or a splitter connected to or integrated in the main distribution, the system comprising:

an analog or digital telecommunication device (TE); and
an interface circuit (SS), with a memory unit (SP) and a microprocessor (MP), structured and dimensioned for connection to said telecommunication device (TE), a first end of said interface circuit (SS) being connected to the main distribution via a subscriber circuit or a subscriber modem and a splitter or a network termination (NTBA) or subscriber lines (AL) and a second end of said interface circuit (SS) being connected to said workstation (AP), wherein the interface circuit ~~connected~~ is connected via at least a standardized ~~interface SS~~ interface (SS) vicarious for said telecommunication device (TE) and registers itself to said content-server by means of the log-in procedure stored in the memory unit (SP), and automatically tests at least a bandwidth available to the telecommunication device (TE) and all available protocols in communication with said content-server as a remote station and adjusts itself to a protocol proposed by said remote station by transmitting at least one test signal stored in the memory unit (SP) to said content-server so that said interface circuit (SS) prevents typical "time out"-problems by indicating the complete reception of an image file in such a way that said workstation (AP) remains connected to said e-learning or tele-teaching event.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 20, wherein the interface circuit (SS) further comprises a hard disk, as well as at least one of each type of conventional plug-type connectors (COM, USB) for connection of the telecommunication device (TE) to the workstation (AP).

Claim 22 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 21, wherein a read-only memory (SP) is exchangeable.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 20, wherein an intelligent operating element (BT) is connected to the interface circuit (SS).

Claim 24 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 20, wherein the interface circuit (SS) is designed as a plug-in card for a network station or a PC.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 24, wherein the plug-in card comprises at least one microprocessor (MP) and a LAN interface designed as a bus interface, wherein the LAN interface is connected to a PCI bus transmitting control information, wherein a network station or a PC constitutes a host system.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 25, wherein said plug-in card is detected as a LAN card by a plug and play function or by standard drivers when said plug in card is plugged into said host system.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 24, wherein said plug-in card comprises a call number memory with a number of participants or network stations authorized to access data, wherein, depending on a transmitted call number, the call number is verified or the connection is established to the authorized caller.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of claim 24, wherein the plug-in card automatically breaks a connection in case of a pause in transmission lasting longer than a preselected waiting time, and restores the connection when data are once again pending.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The virtual electronic teaching system of

claim 24, wherein, depending on a bandwidth demand, the plug-in card automatically activates additional communication channels to achieve dynamic channel management and bandwidth control.